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A new subspecies of *Lagoptera javanica* (Gaede) (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Catocalinae) from the Philippines

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Abstract A new subspecies of *Lagoptera javanica* (Gaede, 1917) is described from the Philippines. *L. javanica acaerulea* Holloway, 1976 is sunk to a junior synonym of *L. javanica defasciata* (Gaede, 1917).

Key words *Lagoptera*, *Lagoptera javanica*, *Lagoptera javanica acaerulea*, *Lagoptera javanica defasciata*, *Lagoptera javanica variabilis*, *Lagoptera joiceyi*, Borneo, Philippines, Mindanao I., Mindoro I., taxonomy.

The genus *Lagoptera* Guenée, 1852 is well defined by the characteristic wing pattern, the male forewing shape and the brush of long hairs along the inner margin of the hindwing, and by dorsally rather flattened abdomen clothed with lateral fringes of hair (Hampson, 1894, 1913; Gaede, 1938), and comprises two beautiful species from the W. Himalayas to NE. Asia and to Sundaland. One of them, *L. juno* (Dalman, 1823), is a widespread species whose range extends to NE. Asia, and the other, *L. javanica* (Gaede, 1917), is a genuine Sundanian resident subdivided into two subspecies: ssp. *javanica* from Java and Sumatra, and ssp. *defasciata* (Gaede, 1917), comb. n. (=*acaerulea* Holloway, 1976) from Borneo. Very recently, I examined some specimens of this genus from Mindanao and Mindoro in the Philippines. In appearance, they are very different from both *juno* and *javanica*, and at first glance look like a distinct species. Following careful comparison, including comparison of the male genitalia, I consider them to represent a new subspecies of *L. javanica*, described in the following lines.

Lagoptera javanica variabilis ssp. n. (Figs 1–4)

♂♀. Length of forewing 31–33 mm, expanse 59–63 mm. Smaller than subspecies *javanica* and *defasciata* (length of forewing 38–40 mm, expanse 74–76 mm). Forewing bright brown to dark fuscous, with median and marginal areas rarely paler; basic wing pattern more similar to *javanica* (Fig. 5) than *defasciata* (Fig. 6) in having the submarginal line not so deeply incurved near the middle, but roughly parallel to the oblique postmedian line below the subcosta, however, the submarginal line is different from both subspecies in that it is not so acutely oblique from the apex, and is slightly angled inwards above the tornus. Hindwing more similar to *defasciata* than *javanica* in having the median blue band not so developed and sometimes obsolete; marginal pale band narrower and completely different from both *javanica* and *defasciata* in its coloration, which varies from pale smoky ocher to dull grayish yellow instead of vivid bright yellow in *javanica* and *defasciata*; in some specimens, black points at termen in cellules 2–6.

Male genitalia (Fig. 8). Nearly identical with those of *defasciata* (Fig. 7) except for the condition of cornuti of vesica, where two masses of spines are not so developed as those of *defasciata*, but this difference may be individual.

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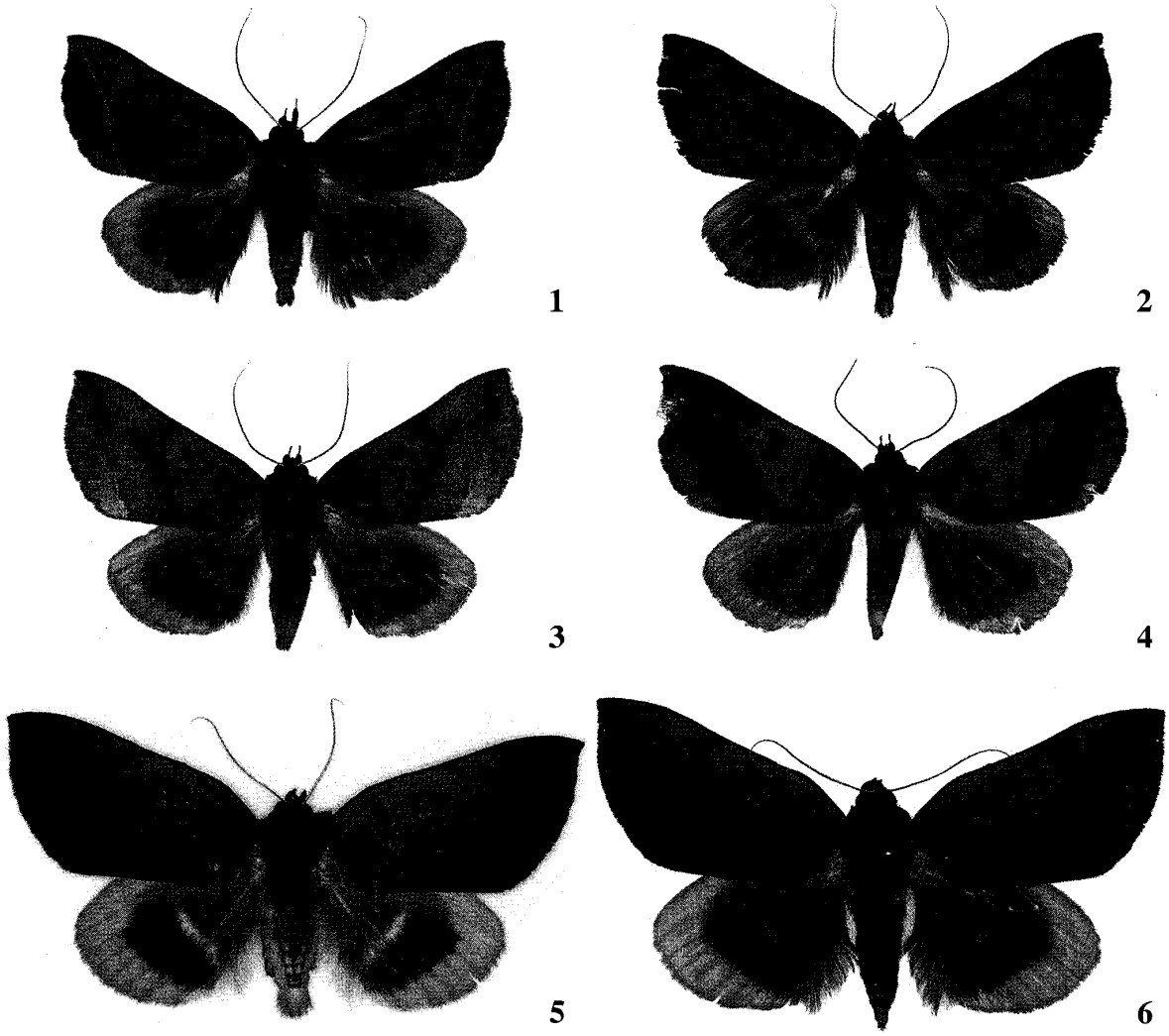

Figs 1–6. *Lagoptera javanica* subspp. 1–4. *L. j. variabilis* ssp. n., Philippines, Mindanao I. (1: holotype, ♂, 2: paratype, ♂, 3–4: paratypes, ♀). 5. *L. j. javanica* (Gaede), Sumatra. Holotype, ♂, of *Dermaleipa joiceyi* A. E. Prout, 1924, in coll. The Natural History Museum, London. 6. *L. j. defasciata* (Gaede), ♂, Borneo.

Holotype. ♂, Philippines, Mindanao I., Mt Kitanglad, 1,400 m, 16–25. x. 2003, R. Cabale leg., will be preserved in the collection of Laboratory of Insect Systematics, National Institute of Agro-Environmental Sciences, Tsukuba. Paratypes. 1 ♂ 3 ♀, the same data as holotype; 1 ♂ 3 ♀, Philippines, Mindoro I., Mt Halcon, x. 2000, *ex* H. Fukuda. 1 ♂ 5 ♀ paratypes (Mindanao I. and Mindoro I.) are in my collection, and 1 ♂ 1 ♀ paratypes (Mindoro I.) are in Mr H. Fukuda's collection.

Distribution. Philippines: Mindanao I., Mindoro I.

Remarks. The new subspecies is well characterized by its smaller size and the grayish yellow or pale brown margin of the hindwing. The ground color of the forewing is somewhat variable from pale to dark, and the coloration of the marginal band of the hindwing is also variable in the degree of yellow tinge. The subspecific name is derived from these features.

I take this opportunity to add a note on the nomenclature of the Bornean subspecies. When

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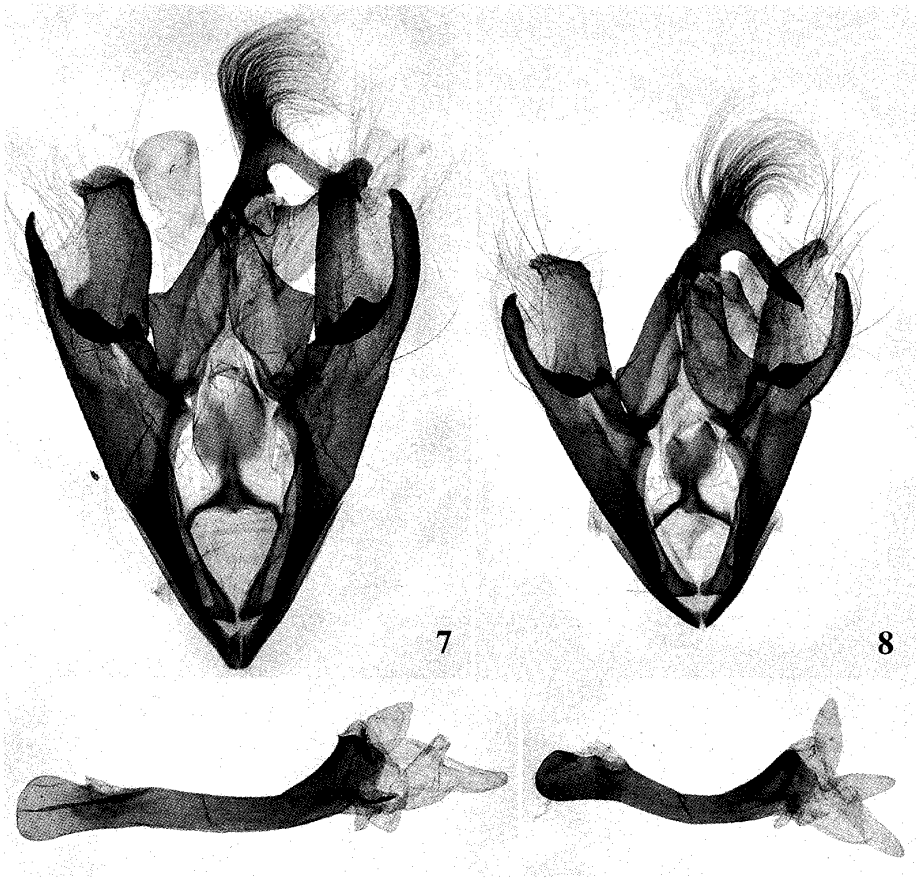

Figs 7–8. Male genitalia of *Lagoptera javanica* subspp. 7. *L. j. defasciata* (Gaede), Borneo. 8. *L. j. variabilis* ssp. n., Philippines, Mindanao I., paratype.

Gaede (1917) described *Dermaleipa javanica* from Java, he also described var. *defasciata* for the Bornean specimens. This name was again cited in *Seitz* (Gaede, 1938) for the Bornean form, but was not included in the Poole's (1989) catalogue probably because of his judgement that *defasciata* is infrasubspecific. However, it is apparent that Gaede (1917) presented this name as a geographical variation, and therefore *defasciata* is interpreted as a subspecific name in the modern concept. Holloway's (1976: 29, pl. 11: 141) *Lagoptera javanica acaerulea* from Borneo thus, becomes a junior subjective synonym (**syn. nov.**).

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摘　　要

フィリピン産 *Lagoptera javanica* (Gaede) の1新亜種 (吉本　浩)

ムクゲコノハ属 *Lagoptera* Guenée, 1852は, 独特の斑紋や♂前翅の特徴的な翅形と♂後翅内縁の長毛, やや扁平な腹部背面の状態などによってよく特徴付けられ, ヒマラヤから北東アジア, またはフィリピン, スラウェシまでのスンダランドにかけて2種を産する. 1種は日本にも分布する広域種のムクゲコノハ *L. juno* (Dalman, 1823) であるが, 他の1種, *L. javanica* (Gaede, 1917), は純粋にスンダランドの蛾で, 模式産地のジャワおよびスマトラに原名亜種 *javanica*, ボルネオに別亜種 *defasciata* (Gaede, 1917) (=*acaerulea* Holloway, 1976) が知られている. 最近私は, 一見この属の第3の種とも思えるようなフィリピン (ミンダナオ島) 産の小数の標本を調べる機会に恵まれ, 調査した結果, *L. javanica* の新亜種を代表することが分かったので, *L. javanica variabilis* Yoshimoto として記載した. この亜種は, 小型なこと, 前翅亜外縁線が下方で内湾しないこと, 後翅中央の青色帯が発達しないこと, 後翅外縁の黄色帯がくすんだ灰黄色かほとんど黄色味を欠く淡褐色となることなどで, *L. javanica* の既知亜種と容易に区別される. なお, 亜種 *acaerulea* Holloway, 1976として知られるボルネオの個体群については, より古い *Dermaleipa javanica defasciata* Gaede, 1917の名称が有効なことが分かったので, 学名を変更した.

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